

True Translation of PCT/EP2005/001617 claims as filed on October 06, 2005

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Claims

1. Fixing means for temporarily fixing human or animal body parts, comprising at least one flexible carrier layer which is coated with at least one hardenable material, wherein the body part to be fixed may be surrounded either completely or partially with the fixing means, and the hardenable material is then hardened, thereby stiffening the carrier layer, wherein the fixing means (1) comprises at least two carrier layers consisting of at least one outer layer (2) of a flexible polymer sheet and at least one inner layer (3) of a flexible polymer sheet, characterized in that the fixing means (1) has at least one substantially liquid or viscous layer (4) of at least one hardenable adhesive which is disposed between the outer (2) and the inner layer (3), wherein the layers (2,3) of the flexible polymer sheets as well as the adhesive layer (4) are transparent such that the fixed body part remains visible beneath the fixing means (1).
2. Fixing means according to claim 1, characterized in that the adhesive is an adhesive that can be hardened using electromagnetic radiation, wherein at least the outer layer (2) consists of a polymer sheet which is permeable to electromagnetic radiation.
3. Fixing means according to claim 2, characterized in that the adhesive is an adhesive that can be hardened using infrared radiation.
4. Fixing means according to claim 2, characterized in that the adhesive is an adhesive that can be hardened using ultraviolet radiation.

5. Fixing means according to claim 1, characterized in that the adhesive is an adhesive that can be hardened using ultrasound.
6. Fixing means according to claim 1, characterized in that the adhesive is an adhesive that can be hardened using heat.
7. Fixing means according to any one of the claims 1 through 6, characterized in that the adhesive is formed from at least one hardenable resin, optionally in connection with a hardener which can be activated by electromagnetic radiation, ultrasound and/or heat.
8. Fixing means according to claim 7, characterized in that the adhesive is formed by a thermosetting material, in particular, from the group of acrylic resins, methacrylic resins, epoxy resins, polyester resins, polyurethane resins, urea resins, melamine resins, formaldehyde resins, phenolic resins, furane resins, silicone resins, mixtures thereof, or a thermosetting material obtained through copolymerisation of several of the above-mentioned resins.
9. Fixing means according to any one of the preceding claims 1 through 8, characterized in that the outer (2) and/or inner layer (3) is/are formed by a sheet of at least one thermoplastic and/or thermoelastic polymer.
10. Fixing means according to claim 9, characterized in that the outer (2) and/or inner layer (3) is/are formed by a sheet of at least one thermoplastic and/or thermoelastic polymer with functional groups, such as polyamides, polyesters, polyurethanes, polycarbonates or the like.

11. Fixing means according to any one of the claims 1 through 10, characterized in that the outer (2) and inner layer (3) have a layer thickness of between 0.01 mm and 5 mm, in particular between 0.1 mm and 2mm.
12. Fixing means according to any one of the claims 1 through 11, characterized in that the adhesive layer (4) has a layer thickness of between 0.01 mm and 20 mm, in particular, between 0.1 mm and 10mm.
13. Fixing means according to any one of the claims 1 through 12, characterized in that at least the adhesive layer (4) has reinforcing fibers, in particular, glass fibers.
14. Fixing means according to any one of the claims 1 through 13, characterized in that it is substantially band-shaped.
15. Fixing means according to claim 14, characterized in that it is substantially wound into a roll.